Author's response to reviews

Title: Shared decision making in type 2 diabetes with a support decision tool that takes into account clinical factors, the intensity of treatment and patient preferences: design of a cluster randomised (OPTIMAL) trial

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Hereewith I enclose our manuscript entitled ‘Shared decision making in type 2 diabetes with a support decision tool that takes into account clinical factors, the intensity of treatment and patient preferences: design of a cluster randomised (OPTIMAL) trial’ for evaluation for publication in BMC Family Practice.

No more than 10-15% of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) patients achieve all treatment goals regarding glycaemic control, lipids and blood pressure. Shared decision making (SDM) should increase that percentage; however, not all support decision tools are appropriate.

Because the ADDITION-Europe study demonstrated two (almost) equally effective treatments but with slightly different intensities, it may be a good starting point to discuss with the patients their diabetes treatment, taking into account both the intensity of treatment, clinical factors and patients’ preferences. This paper describes the design of a pragmatic cluster-randomised trial for goal setting by SDM and the development of a support decision tool for this purpose, for T2DM patients in primary care.

This ongoing study will provide evidence whether an intervention with a multi-faceted decision support tool increases the proportion of achieved personalised treatment goals in type 2 diabetes patients.

The study was funded by a charitable foundation (Nuts OHRA) and no funding assistance was received from a commercial organization. The original document for funding approval (Nuts OHRA) and the ethical approval (METC) were send to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com.

All authors have read and agreed with the paper’s contents and the authors have no conflicts of interest to declare. The paper has not been previously published in whole or in part nor is it under consideration by another journal. No publications containing the results of this study have already been published or submitted to any journal.
We hope you will consider our contribution for publication in BMC Family Practice.

Sincerely yours, on behalf of all authors,

H. den Ouden